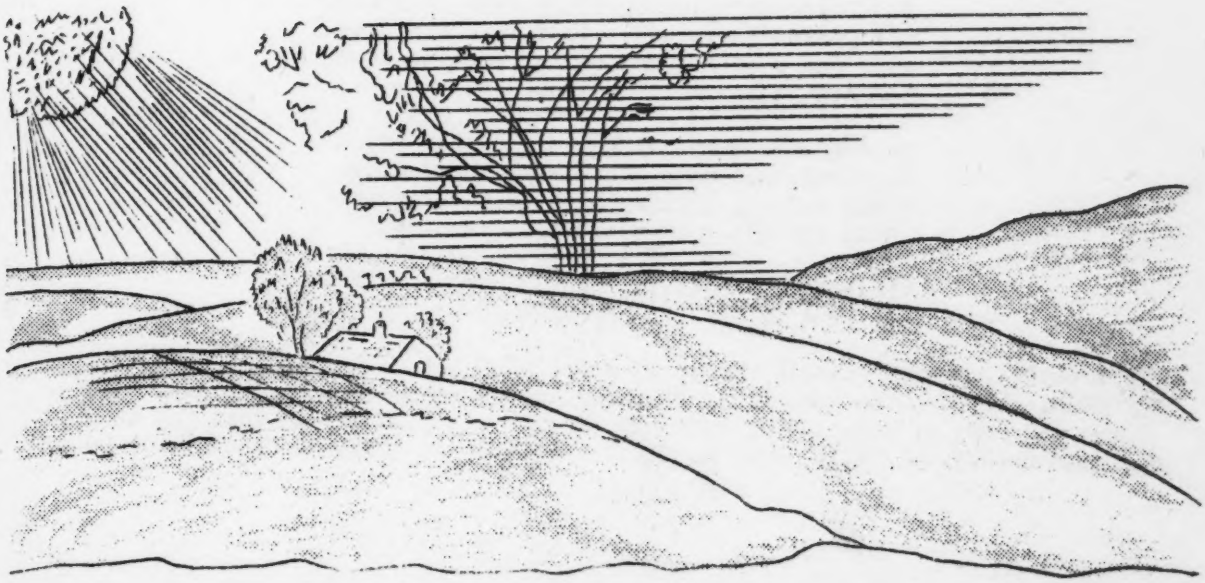
THE STAR

RADIATING THE LIGHT
OF TRUTH ON
HANSEN'S DISEASE.



SPRING

April 1944

VOLUME 3 No. 8

RADIATING THE LIGHT OF TRUTH ON HANSEN'S DISEASE

Published monthly by the patients of the United States Marine Hospital, National Leprosarium, Carville, Louisiana.
Instructive or amusing articles, poems, etc. are solicited and will be used as space and occasion permits. All material must be signed.
Subscription price $1.00 a year. Patients may subscribe for themselves or for their families for .50¢ a year.
Address all communications to THE STAR, CARVILLE, LOUISIANA.

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"In order that leprosy may be dealt with successfully on a comprehensive scale, and before any large proportion of early cases will come voluntarily for examination, there must be a change in the attitude of the public toward the disease. Any scheme for the control of leprosy will depend for its success on an educated public opinion."

Recommendation of World Conference on Leprosy, Cairo, Egypt, March 1938.

FACTS THAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HANSEN'S DISEASE

The transmission of Hansen's disease being still unsolved, the medical world classes it as "feebly communicable".

The Leprosarium at Carville was founded forty-nine years ago. To date not a single member of the medical or nursing staff has contracted the disease,

Doctors and nurses take very simple precautions, not comparable with those they would take in dealing with diphtheria, typhoid and other communicable diseases.

Visitors are admitted freely, nor are they required to take any special precautions.

This paper, and all outgoing mail, is sterilized before leaving the hospital. THE STAR, rolled as we send it to you, requires 1½¢ postage, when sealed in a large envelope it requires 9¢ postage. Mail it to a friend when you have finished reading it. Help us to readiate the light of truth on Hanses's disease.

THANK YOU, 40 AND 8

Doctor, lawyer, merchant, yes, and even a chief (a fireman in Pennsylvania), all from widely scattered sections of the country, have responded to the call of the Forty and Eighter, official national publication of La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux, for subscriptions to THE STAR. In its March issue the Forty and Eighter carried a full page story about THE STAR, illustrated with a picture, snapped by our own Johnny Harris, of the Louisiana group of 40 and 8-ers presenting the press to Dr. Faget. The story reads, in part, as follows:

"La Societe by Omaha Promenade National Action manifested the deep interest it holds in the welfare and happiness of patients in the U.S. Marine Hospital at Carville, La.

"As a result of this action the "long expected day has arrived."A printing press, so badly desired by the hospital, has been delivered.Voyageurs and Legionnaires everywhere are invited to fill out the coupon run herewith and subscribe for THE STAR,hospital publication. By so doing you will aid directly in this project.

"THE STAR is a most interesting paper. It gives a true appraisal of the situation involving Hansen's disease.

"Sam Rubin,grand chef de gare, Louisiana Forty and Eight, made a personal donation that provided the printing press, electrically operated, and ample printing supplies. His expenditure was approximately $500. The Public Health Service agreed to employ a printer.National Commander Warren H. Atherton and Chef de Chemin de Fer Oscar C. Lamp thanked Chef de Gare Rubin for his commendable gift, made in the name of the 40 and 8."

The article concludes with an

GROUP PLANS FOR PRINTING STAR

For two years and eight months THE STAR has been published in its present mimeographed form. Now begins the transition period and we turn our thoughts and efforts to issuing THE STAR in print.

With this in mind we sent out an S.O.S.(Save our Star) for potential type setters. The response was encouraging for on Wednesday, March 29, and enthusiastic and willing group gathered in Recreational Aid Thames office for a discussion.

Martin Brown, Julio Perez and Roland Roberts, all of whom have had some previous typesetting experience,volunteered to act as monitors. Hank Simon and Roland Roberts will have charge of operating the press. Johnnie Harris has offered his services as photographer. Others attending the meeting included Joe DeZaballa,Henry S.,John O'Brien,Pete Bellocampo, Nick Farrel,Delgado, Charles Matherne,Harry Martin, Steve Medina, Alan Smith, William Chin And Paul Jang.

If you're interested in learning how to set type or any other phase of this project, there's plenty to do, please sing out.

The entire project is under the supervision of Recreational Aid Thames who was appointed by the Public Health Service to take charge of printing THE STAR after a recommendation by Claude A.Brown, national field secretary of the American Legion,that this position be created.

40 and 8 Continued

informal letter from Grand correspondent C.M. Mitchell of Monroe,La., explaining the progress being made in this splendid 40 and 8 project.

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"Don't rest on your laurels unless you are prepared to see them wilt." --Anonymous

FINAL FIGURES ON RED CROSS DRIVE

In the March issue of The Star we listed the total contribution to the Red Cross by the patients as $738.93. After we had gone to press other donations were handed in which raised this already startling figure to $753.43. This calls for an extra pat on the back for everyone who worked so hard to make this Carnival a success, and to each and every donor.

Miss Mary Browne, Chairman of the Drive in Wards four and five reported $1,295.68. Of this amount $553.43 was donated by the patients at the U.S.Marine Hospital, Carville, Louisiana.

Concerning the amount contributed by the patients Miss Browne in a letter to Mr.Berchmans S. Wilbert, Chairman of the drive in Iberville Parish said:

"There is transmitted herewith to you, check No.123 of The Patients' Federation,in the amount of $553.43, which represents the donation of our patients to the American Red Cross War Fund drive, currently under way.

"This donation is being sent to you separately and apart from any other funds in the local Red Cross War Fund Drive, because I feel it is worthy of special recognition, because it represents the wonderful spirit, and much interest and work on the part of our patients."

The patients have received a letter of warm appreciation from Mrs. L. L. McCormick, Executive Secretary of the St. Charles Chapter of the Red Cross for the $200.00 donation sent that Chapter for kit bags.

WAR STAMP REPORT

In our monthly drive the patients purchased $147.25 worth of stamps.

LATIN-AMERICAN ORCHESTRA ENTERTAINS

We tip our sombreros with a flourish and we say "Muchas Gracias" to the Latin-American Orchestra of Louisiana State University for the delightful musical program given in our theater on Sunday evening, March 19.Members of this orchestra, directed by J. A. Thompson, included Manuel Lopez de Quintana, guitar; Rodrigo Moreno, mandolin; Adolfo Quezada, maracas; Horencio Camafreita, tambor; Jose Tellechea, claves; Raul Navarro, vocalist; and Alice McCombs of Ohio,piano. Assisting the artists were Senoritas Ann Wardell and Wlbertine Moore, co-eds at the University.

This excellent orchestra can be heard every Monday evening at 6:15 over WJBO. One of the numbers on their radio program on March 20 was dedicated to Carville patients.

Approximately one hundred Latin-American students are on the L.S.U. campus, representing all of the sister republics with the exception of Uraguay,Bolivia and Haiti.

Recreational Aid Thames arranged this treat.

L.S.U. STUDENTS VISIT HOSPITAL

Thirteen L.S.U. students of the school of social welfare,accompanied by Miss Agnes Smart, Assistant professor,visited this hospital on Saturday,April 1, as one of their regularly planned field trips. Dr. Faget gave a talk to the group on diagnosis and treatment of Hansen's disease. According to the Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, Dr. Faget's talk directed attention to the implications of the disease in the social adjustment of the individual when he is discharged from the hospital as an arrested

(Continued on Page 3)

STATE LEGIONNAIRE OFFICIALS CALL

On Tuesday, March 14, local Legionnaires had an official visit from Assistant State Service Commissioner F. Chas. Deck and Department Adjutant Matt Monaghan, of New Orleans, Mr. Deck, who was recently appointed by Grand Chef de Gare Sam Rubin as Chairman of Carville Hospital Activities, was also busy on that project for he brought with him a carful of additional equipment for THE STAR's printshop, the particular "baby" of the 40/8.

LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON

"I have pledged myself to carry on in my father's footsteps and to continue his efforts toward destroying the ignorance and prejudice now surrounding the subject of Hansen's disease." This is part of an inspiring message which came to THE STAR during the month from somewhere in the South Pacific, sent by Stf. Sgt. Roy B. Deck, United States Marines, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. F. Chas. Deck. Roy enlisted on Christmas Eve 1941 and is now entering his third year of foreign duty. He was at Guadalcanal and has been in the thick of action in the Pacific theater. Some of us met Roy personally when he came up with his Dad for the opening of the new recreation building. Taking time out from his hectic day, Roy writes, "I have just received an issue of THE STAR and I determined then and there to waste no more time in sending in my subscription. Dad has often sent me clippings from THE STAR but this is the first time since I left home that I have seen a complete issue. I am very glad that at long last we have a printing press so that we might improve upon this paper. I really believe that the sooner we can spread the truth to the four corners of the earth, the sooner we will enlighten the millions. I have, in my own small way, tried to spread the gospel of truth as much as possible. Now, with something like THE STAR to assist me, I can go on acting as an agent of education. Since I am old enough to remember I have heard the story and have felt the cause being made a part of me."

The Decks' second son, Bobby, also in the Marines, was wounded in the invasion of the Marshalls and is now convalescing in an Army Hospital.

B.L. SPANN ASSIGNED TO BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS OF THE STATE GUARD

Friends of B.L. Spann of Baton Rouge, and that includes practically the entire patient body, will be interested to learn that he has been assigned by Brig. Gen. Thomas F. Porter, Commanding Officer, to Brigade Headquarters of the State Guard at Lake Charles as Adjutant with the rank of Captain.

We were glad to learn that Mr. Spann's new position will not change his Baton Rouge residence.

Captain and Mrs. Spann have two sons in the service. Leo, the eldest, is now at Aitutaki, in the Cook Islands, and Billy is an Engign in the Navy.

STUDENTS VISIT-Cont'd

case. The importance of medical observation and care for the family of a patient, since the disease is known to have an hereditary aspect was also emphasized as leprosy is more prevalent in Louisiana than any other state. Since families of patients frequently ask for service from social welfare agencies, this was a timely and significant medical lecture.

LEPROSY TODAY

By E.R.Kellersberger,M.D.,D.T.M. and H.

Reprinted from CLINICS,Vol.11 No4

Editor's Foreword: Dr.Kellersberger is a graduate of Texas University, Washington Medical School, and London School of Hygiene, London University. Dr. Kellersberger spent twenty-five years in the Belgian Congo as a medical missionary where he made a special study of leprosy and other tropical diseases. Since his return to the United States he has been giving lectures at medical colleges and to groups of physicians and to religious groups all over the nation. Dr. Kellersberger is a frequent contributor to medical journals and is one of the authors of the authoritative new book, "Clinical Tropical Medicine".

Dr. Kellersberger has asserted that,"As soon as we realize that leprosy is a disease just as tuberculosis is, just that much quicker will we have a better control of it in the world." Dr. Kellersberger's viewpoint, with neither phobia nor indifference, should tend to create a sane and intelligent attitude so much needed to give Hansen's disease the same consideration accorded other diseases.

THE STAR will publish abstracts from LEPROSY TODAY in several installments.

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Introduction

A practical, frank, and fearless discussion of this ostracizing scourge of the world is timely and urgent.A revaluation and re-examination of all the facts is indicated.Unprecedented world conditions and close, global contacts of all nations and peoples are going on. Leprosy will be one of the diseases brought back to this country in the near and far future,as never before. We can no longer dismiss it with the statement that we are not interested in it because it is not a public health problem in the United States. Thousands of men all over the country are studying diseases of tropical origin, and Tropical Medicine is assuming a place of first importance in the medical curricula. Leprosy, though a world-wide disease, is found mostly in tropical and subtropical areas; it is thus an integral part of this new emphasis.

An American University graduate recently confessed that he thought all leprosy was confined within the pages of the Old and the New Testament. He is by no means the only educated citizen of our country who is grossly ignorant of the world extent of leprosy and of the facts concerning it.Misleading stories in American publications and exaggerated presentations on the screen have given rise to an unreasonable fear on the part of the laity concerning the extreme contagiousness of the disease.On the contrary there is the danger of ignoring its presence altogether. As proof, the dramatic headline of one recent newspaper article is before me: LEPROSY DANGER TO SOLDIERS IS A MYTH. Both extreme attitudes are equally reprehensible. At a recent meeting (Nov. 10-12,1942) of the Southern Medical Association and the American Society of Tropical Medicine, in Richmond, Va., where 1,452 doctors were gathered from all over the United States, the statement was made and published that after this global war every tropical disease in the world would be found in this country.

Cases of leprosy have already been reported from thirty-eight states and in the District of Columbia, Hawaii,Porto Rico, the Philippines, and the Canal Zone. The disease is endemic in Texas, Louisiana and Florida. The time

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seems now at hand not only to educate the laity as to the real status of the disease but to remove the mystery surrounding it, as we have done for tuberculosis and syphilis and for other public health problems. In this connection a magnificent piece of work is being carried on at the National Leprosarium at Carville, Louisiana, under the able direction of Dr. Faget and his efficient staff. There are selfish interests that do not wish the truth publicized. To admit that there are cases of leprosy in most of our large cities would interfere with the commercial prosperity of some of our citizens. Such conditions have existed since the early days of our nation. In 1794 an epidemic of yellow fever spread along the low-lying districts of the Atlantic seaboard. The contagion had probably been introduced by ships from the West Indies and it was soon widely disseminated. A famous public spirited doctor wrote a letter to the mayor of one of the larger cities infected stating that yellow fever was present in epidemic form. Due to overzealous civic pride the city fathers were immediately in strong opposition to this idea and heaped such abuse upon the poor doctor's head that in some circles it was proposed to drive him out of the city on a charge of insanity. Needless to say the epidemic was not publicized and many died as a result. I, myself, have discovered that this attitude of pride and prejudice is still exhibited in some communities of the enlightened twentieth century. Until now even the medical profession as a whole has remained indifferent to the presence and danger of leprosy and feels that it is not, as yet, a public health problem. The purpose of this article is to seek to prove that it will become one unless the general public as well as the medical profession learns more of its true nature.

MEDICAL VISITORS FROM LAGARDE

A large group of doctors and nurses from LaGarde General Hospital of New Orleans were among the medical visitors in March. They included Major Robert Stolar; Dr.W.T. Bynum,Lt. Sr.Gr. ; A.A. Bernatitus, Lt.J.G.,N.N.C.; Lt. Eugene Revitch; L.H.Blackford, Lt.J.G.,NNC; John M. Ross, 1st Lt.,M.C.U.S. Army; A.A. Roger, 1st Lt. M.C.A. U. S.;John C. Claypool,1st Lt.M.C.A.U.S.;L. S.Ford,1st Lt. M.C.A.U.S.; R. M. Perkins, 1st Lt.M.C.A.U. S; William C. Fuqua, 1st Lt.M.C.A. U.S.; John P. Fairchild, 1st Lt. M.C.,A.U.S.;Allan L.Friedlich, Jr., 1st Lt.M.C.;John W.O'Neill, 1st Lt. M.C.; Morris E. Fuller, 1st Lt.M.C.;Robert E.Fokes,Jr., 1st Lt.M.C.; Claude M.Ohillips, Major,M.C.; Augine Dauroff,Major; C.F. Jones, 1st Lt.;J.Bryan, 1st Lt.; J. Frery, 1st Lt.; L. Felmae;T. Fitzgerald,1st Lt.; D. Egan, 1st Lt.; E. Oliver,1st Lt.:Dr.Dobbie, 1st Lt.; Dr.Wilson, 1st Lt.; John Potter, 1st Lt.; Louis Bailer, 1st Lt.;John Witty, 1st Lt.; Chester Cassell, 1st Lt.; Gerald Winoku, 1st Lt.; Jerald Broyles, 1st Lt.; E. Clasen, Major.

Other medical visitors were Dr. Louis G. Klowleton, Cleveland, Ohio;Dr. N.Dettman,Major,Milwaukee, Wis.; Lt. M. Jochimson,New Orleans,La.; Capt. George Rosenberg, Veterans' Hospital,Alexandria,La.; Mrs. Melchant,R.N. Miss Melancon,R.M. Mrs.Ferran, R. N.,Charity Hospital, New Orleans, La.; Miss Ida Mae Witty, R.N. of Crowley, La.; and Mrs. Gertrude Garrett, R.N., Cincinnati, Ohio.

"The beginning of action is thinking; the beginning of thinking is intelligent definition."
- - Raymond Gram Swing

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

by Grover C. Thames, Director

The Recreational Program is off to a flying start. Not only are active games and sports planned but there will also be indoor games and occupational activities for those who are more or less incapacitated for the more strenuous activities. From time to time entertainments made up of the best talent available will be brought from outside to give special performances.

SOFTBALL

The soft ball season promises to be a good one. Two teams composed of outstanding patient players have been organized and have been showing real class during the "warming-up" season. The Blues won the championship last year but the Reds are right after them this year and from all prospects it is going to be nip and tuck from the very start. Unfortunately Skipper Broussard of the Blues made a forced landing at second base during the initial practice game of the season and came up with a sprained ankle and has been on sticks for several days. Sam Munoz has been doing a fine job piloting the Reds in the absence of Al, who was recently discharged.

The opening game was scheduled for Sunday afternoon, April 2 but Jupe Pluvious delivered a washout blow just before game time necessitating postponement.

The schedule calls for two regular games each week with daily practice in between.

GOLF

Golf is practically a year round sport at Carville. There are a number of players on the course every day and as soon as the Spring showers slow down there will be others who will join those who never quit.

The course is above fair in condition and with the extra attention that is being given to it the patients are assured of one of the best nine hole courses in the country.

CROQUET GOLF

The croquet courts have been under construction for several weeks but due to continuous rains they are not yet in playable condition. These courts will be located adjacent to the buildings occupied by women patients and will afford them an opportunity to take part in an activity that requires a minimum of exertion.

TENNIS

The tennis court is open for play at any time before nightfall. A supply of new tennis balls has arrived and the players will be seen on the court every day hereafter.

RECREATION HALL

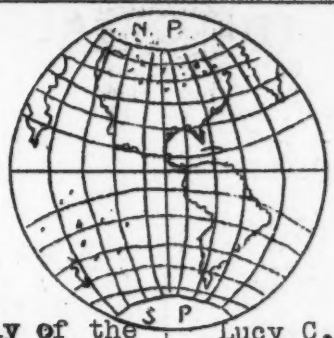
The Ball Room which has in the past been used only occasionly has how been converted into a Recreation Center. In it will be found one pool table, two pingpong tables, three dart games, three pin ball machines, bingo, dominoes, checkers, chess, Chinese checkers and other table games.

This room is open to men and women every day of the week. An orderly or the Recreation Director wil be on duty to provide the patients with such material or equipment as they may need.

GARDEN CLUB

The patients at Carville have been growing their own vegetable and flower gardens for years. This year for the first time a garden club has been formed and is sponsoring a club contest for the best gardens of several different classifications. At the organization meeting Allen Smith, Louie Boudreaux and Sam Munoz were selected as a committee to work out details. The gardens will be judged later by an agriculturist.

GLOBAL GIMPSES



NEWS AND VIEWS OF PATIENTS FROM FAR AND NEAR

PANAMA

Albert Ingram, formerly of the clerical personnel of the Leprosarium at Palo Seco (dry stick) and a subscriber to THE STAR, has sent us an original manuscript describing the hospital and life there. We plan to publish his article in the near future.

Mr. Ingram, now residing in Diablo Heights, tells in one of his recent letters of a wedding party. Says he: "Today I heard a car horn blow outside and someone call 'Hey Boss'. As there is only one person who addresses me as such I knew the chauffeur from the Colony was down below so looking out of the window I saw John with four passengers, two women and two men, patients from Palo Seco. I told them to come up but they said they could not. I guess the Doctor told them they must not leave the car except when they arrived at their destination. So I went down and found out that Miss Iris was to be married to Mr. Lester and that Senorita Augustina was to be married to Senor Antolin, the second couple to be married at the church in Palo Seco a week from this Sunday and had come along to be with Miss Iris at her wedding. I was requested to be there just for old times sake and to fill in as a witness. So about a half hour later the ceremony was performed. Augustina's wedding I must miss as I work that day but will go out as soon as I can."

Special quarters are provided for married couples at Palo Seco.

HAWAII

Lucy C., a patient at Kalaupapa, Molokai recently wrote: "A few days ago Dr. Sloan, the resident physician, brought a few copies of THE STAR to the General Hospital. Of course, the girls in the women's ward got hold of them first and that really started something. We enjoyed reading THE STAR especially when we found out that the people there and the people here had a few things in common besides Hansen's disease. As an example, sometimes a certain person just knows that he needs to go to the hospital for a rest and he will put it off until the next dance is over, or maybe it's an invitation to a luau, or Hawaiian feast, he'll wait till he has had his fill of kalua pig and all the other foods that go to make up a Hawaiian luau. Now I read something along the same lines in the 1943 November issue. Some of the girls thought it would be nice to correspond with the patients there and exchange ideas, views, etc. Maybe you could do something about it, that includes me, too."

We did something about it!

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VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES

The patients at the Leprosarium at St. Croix have long been working for a transfer to the National Leprosarium at Carville. Beryl Clarke, Secretary of the New Colony Council, official organization of the patients re-

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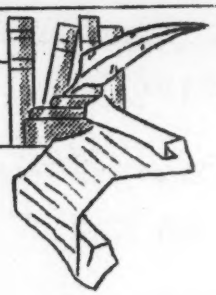
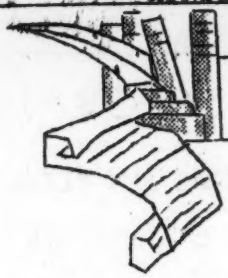


EDITORIAL



OVER THE EDITOR'S DESK

"Leprosy is caused by indecent living, and this is a fact that should be known by every man, woman and child. It is caused by intimate contacts with people. It is mostly found in places where people live in poverty, in the slums of our larger cities, of which there are an estimated 10,000,000." From an address by Dr. E. R. Kellersberger at the First Presbyterian Church, Columbus, Georgia, and reported by the Columbus LEDGER, March 1, 1944.

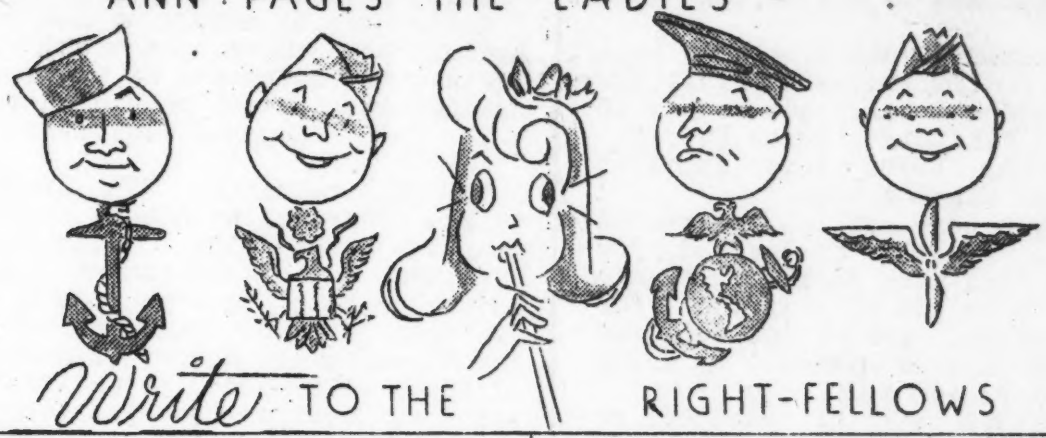
-Lin Yutang, contemporary Chinese writer, said in a recent book, "All who hurt people with their words hurt through thoughtlessness." We feel that Dr. Kellersberger's statement, quoted above, which has hurt us, was made through thoughtlessness. The use of the word "indecent" is an unfortunate choice since it must have given his audience an erroneous impression. Webster defines "indecent" as "not decent; specifically, unfit to be seen or heard; offensive to modesty and delicacy," and the synonyms are "vile, obscene, impure, gross, immodest, unseemly, indelicate."

Thus it can be seen that this word carries with it an association of ideas and feeling which give it a moral implication and this we bitterly resent. Dr. Kellersberger's statement covers too much territory, inferring that all cases are caused by "indecent living." This is not true. We know that many patients in the National Leprosarium have led exemplary lives, and many of us have come from average American homes; in fact, it is doubtful if even one patient in this hospital came from actual slum-districts of a large city. There may be cases there but that is Dr. Kellerberger's personal opinion, so far not confirmed by an epidemilogical survey. On the other hand, Dr. Faget has stated emphatically that "Leprosy is not a dirt disease. Leprosy is not due to any sin committed by those who contract it. Leprosy is a germ disease just as tuberculosis, typhoid fever and pneumonia are germ diseases. It is no more shameful to be infected with the germs of leprosy than with those of tuberculosis, typhoid or pneumonia."

It is difficult to understand why Dr. Kellersberger should use the term "indecent" in speaking to the general public. We note that in his informative paper, LEPROSY TODAY (abstracts elsewhere in this issue), Dr. Kellersberger uses the phrase "unfavorable living conditions" which does not carry the objectionable connotation. It has been said that a single word with the wrong connotation may have serious effects in conveying erroneous impressions.

In our next issue we will continue the editorial discussion of the Rules and Regulations governing this hospital, under the general title of "Carville's Bill of Wrongs." Rules 8 and 9, dealing with the system of discharge, will claim our attention.

ANN PAGE'S THE LADIES



Write TO THE RIGHT-FELLOWS

While hopefully watching my mail box for letters the thought has come to me how much letters from home and friends must mean to our boys in the armed service so far away from everything they were ever accustomed to. With what high hopes they must listen for their name to be called when these long looked for letters are distributed and how terrible must be their feelings when the end of the stack is reached and there isn't one for them.

Maybe it's not so good as a comparison, but, anyhow, think back to your first months in Carville. How alone,lost,strange everything seemed. The only time you felt a part of things again was when you received some word from home. Remember, too, you were still in the States, not some place you had never heard of or probably had at some long ago time noticed on a map in a geography class. If you will think, seriously, about these things you should be in a position to visualize these boys feelings.

For this reason, I want to talk a bit about V mail and why we should use it more freely.

Don't feel I'm criticizing or saying you don't write often enough but a few facts about this mail service might be helpful and encourage you to write at more frequent intervals.

We hear on the radio and read in the papers that this is the best and surest way of reaching these remote outposts of civilization.

V mail stationery may be purchased at any store, even the Canteen has it. Directions are printed on each sheet for your convenience, but remember these letters are opened mechanically at the postoffice to be photographed. For this reason be very careful to fold them exactly on the lines provided or you run the risk of having part of your message cut off. Should you desire to write more than you can safely write on one sheet, simply number your next sheet 2 and finish the letter on it, mailing each with a 3¢ stamp. Do not write outside the given lines.

Small handwriting is not good for it photographs so tiny that it is not legible when received. It has been my experience that a V mail letter written in pencil is practically a loss for one can't make it out in its entirety. The best results are obtained from typed letters and the next best from clearly written pen and ink messages.

Just to give you an idea of spaced saved on precious planes delivering these letters I want to quote a few figures. 3,000 ordinary letters weigh 65 pounds.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The undersigned wishes to register a mild protest against the flippant and burlesque verses entitled "The Birth of St.Patrick by Samuel Lover which appeared in your March issue.

If you were really interested in the apostle of Ireland you could find many thrilling events and facts in his life. As, for an example, how he was captured at the age of sixteen by Irish marauders and sold into slavery; after six years he excaped, returned to Britain and thence to Gaul;then prepared himself by studies and prayers to return to Ireland as a missionary bishop to convert the whole race from paganism to Christianity.

The Church celebrates the feast of St. Patrick on the 17th of March,not as his birthday but as the day of his death, which occurred in the year 463.As a rule the Church does not commemorate the birthdays of the saints but the day of their death.

It should not be necessary to assure your readers that the true clients of St. Patrick do not find nor seek their bliss in getting "blind drunk" on his feast day, in spite of Samuel Lover's assertion.

St.Patrick was not only an indefatigable worker but also a prolific writer.His prose treats of metter of doctrine and discipline; his poems are in the form of beautiful prayers.

As an act of reparation to the honor of th saint and for our mutual edification, you might print the following short excerpt of the"Lorica," the Breast Plate of St. Patrick":

"I bind to myself today
God's power to guide me,
God's might to uphold me,
God's wisdom to guide me,
God's eye to watch over me,
God's ear to hear me,
God's word to give me speech,
God's hand to guide me,
God's shield to shelter me,
God's Host to secure me,
Against the snares of demons,
Against the seduction of vices,
Against the lust of nature,"ect.

Diogenes Redivivus.

THE STAR reprinted "The Birth of St. Patrick" by Samuel Lover from THE GOLDEN BOOK Magazine (Vol.III, one of the finest periodicals ever to appear on the American literary scene,The Modern Encyclopedia describes Samuel Lover (1797-1868) as"an Irish painter, Novelist, and poet.Born in Dublin.He was a member of the Hibernian Academy of Art, and wrote novels, illustrating them himself.Among his works is "Rory O'More!"

We are sure that Lover,himself a distinguished Irishman, penned thses verses with the grand,good humor that characterizes the Sons of Erin,and certainly meant no disrespect to Ireland's patron saint. In the same spirit THE STAR reprinted the verses as something in a lighter vein suitable for the month of March.

To brand this poem as"flippant and burlesque"seems to us a bit on the narrow side.We know that the Irish, while investing St. Patrick's Day with its proper religious significance, also get a lot of fun out of it by jolly celebrations, not lacking in "spirit".

Perhaps your attitude, Diogenes, accounts for your not having found the honest man you sought for truth and good are not always found in solemnity and sorrow, but sometimes in laughter,and more often"between tears and laughter".

"A little nonsense now and then is relished by the wisest men."

(See page 11)

"If you are criticized, let your answer be to do a better job."

- - M.M.M.

Letters to the Editor

I would like to have a page in your paper. My reason is that I would like to have an open discussion with you on matters that I am interested in, and in which some of the people in our community would also be interested.

Is this so? Do you censor your articles before you print them in your paper? Or is it censored by someone else? I thought that the Declaration of Independence gave you certain rights and privileges, among them freedom of speech and of the press. By what right then has anyone to censor any article in your paper if it does not concern a military secret or interfere with the war effort? There are many things that I want to bring up for discussion, things that I would need a full page for. You have a good paper but there are many things of interest that are omitted, things that are for the betterment of our place and ourselves.

I guarantee my topics for discussion will be interesting, "no hot air". I am really serious about this;don't think this is an April fool's prank.I'll give you an example of one of topics, such as better prepared meals. Some people will say that there is a war going on and therefore food is rationed. Well, food may be rationed to civilians but Henry Wallace said over the radio that no food should be rationed in the hospitals,why is it then that we can't get better prepared meals? Food is only being thrown away when not edible. It could seem that the cook would have a little consideration in this matter and make earnest efforts to fix better meals. Whoever says that it can't be done, I say go get your head examined. If you wish to print this in this month's issue,as I hope you will, please do not omit anything at all; if possible, put the whole thing in as I have written it.

Hoping this letter will have your sincere consideration.

Buddy Iglacias.

Censorship---Our copy is sent to the Medical Officer in Charge for approval prior to publication. We consider this more as a courtesy than a censorship as Dr. Faget does not exercise any strict censorship. He acts in an advisory capacity and he is very helpful.

Space---The Department THE PATIENT SPEAKS of THE STAR is open to you, Buddy, and to all other patients under the provisions as outlined in the September 1943 Star. These were as follows:

"The opinions expressed in this department are not necessarily those of THE STAR. We set aside this space to give patients the opportunity to discuss questions pertinent to our problem, local and general. Patients may discuss topics at will but with courtesy. Offensive personal attacks are not permitted. All communications must be signed by the writer for identification but names will be withheld from publication on request and initials or a nom de plume substituted."

V---Mail (Continued)

The same number of letters photographed and sent on films weigh 15 ounces. A large clipper can carry an average of 138,000 regular letters but 9,600,000 V mail letters.

Only use V mail for those boys who are out of the United States, write in the regular way to those still stationed in this country.

There are a number of typists in our patient body more than likely one of them would type your letter for you and it certainly would be helpful to the one receiving it.

Write frequently and cheerfully to these boys and feel you, too, are helping in the War effort.

PRESS PASSING

What was considered one of the most interesting and enjoyable noon-day addresses the College Point Kiwanis Club has listened to in a long time,and one, which President Charlie Shoop said afterwards, had pin-dropping effect, was delivered by Dr. Eduardo Carboni, noted dermathologist of Rosario, Argentina, yesterday noon, before forty members and guests.

It was not only the first address by the handsome young Argentine skin specialist from the banks of the Rio Parana, who is here as a guest of the Leonard Wood Leprosy Foundation, and who is at present at the Post Graduate Hospital, but the first time the local Kiwanis had an opportunity to welcome a visitor from South America and especially the Argentine. The visitor paid several high compliments to Mr.Perry Burgess, president of the Foundation.

It seems strange indeed that his first public speech be in English, a language he is only fairly familiar with, but which served as no handicap whatever. The Pampas Medico acquitted himself most admirably and the members would gladly have listened to more.

North Shore News
Flushing, N. Y.
March 2, 1944

Dr. Carboni is remembered in Carville as one of the group who spent two months studying in this hospital in the spring of 1943.

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In speaking of this disease (Hansen's) to nurses at the Boston City hospital recently, a well-known doctor told the nurses he would rather see any one of them go to a leprosarium than to a tuberculosis sanatorium, that the chances were fewer of them contracting the disease, with simple precautions.

From a talk by Edward R. Broad in the Salem. Mass., NEWS, March 14, 1944.

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DID YOU KNOW

That, according to the Bulletin of the Department of Health of the State of Louisiana,there were 515 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 5 of other types, reported in the State for the quarter ending September 30,1943. In the same period there were 3 cases of Hansen's disease reported.

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That at a recent symposium on Penecillin in London, Fleming, who coined the word, pronounced it with the accent on "cil",although Dorland's Dictionary and the British Broadcasting Co.place the accent on the 2nd syllable.

TWINKLE ☆ TWINKLE LITTLE STAR

I was very glad indeed to receive the February issue of your interesting and highly informative journal. Your material is well chosen and delightfully presented. While I am sure your new presses will give you the gratification of presenting a magazine of enhanced appearance, the issue I have already senn well establishes the character and vigor of your publication. I wish you the greatest success in your splendid work.

DeRoy Braunberg, M.D.
Consultant,
Board of Veterans' Appeals.

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I have read three issues of THE STAR and must say some of the beams of light from THE STAR have certainly illumined me and many of my confreres regarding Hansen's disease.

Fr. Timothy Kavanagh, O.F.M.Cap.

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We are grateful to Voiture 510 of Anderson, Ind., for 14 subscriptions from Voyageurs Frank Hughel, George Grady, Arthur Meikel, Bernard Bradley, Frank Gallagher, Brook D. McCombs, Walter F. Jones, Bradley Stinson, Kenny Hall, Kenny Ellington, Gola Childs, Art Kolross, Herb Sharp, and Gordon Stewart.

Thanks to the following voyageurs for subscriptions: Bill Wood, Battle Creek, Mich.; Frank H. Shearer, Mexico, Miss.; Neil MacDonald, Tucson, Ariz.; J. E. Hutchins, Louisville, Ky.; James S. Nelson, Chicago, Ill.; Henry R. Schmidt, Houston, Texas; James Fuccello, Long Island City, N.Y.; W.T. Woodward, Rockford, Ill.; D. H. Bokhof, M.D., Freeport, Ill. S. J. Shada, Grand Island, Neb.; H. A. Weniger, Jeffersonville, Ind.; Bernard M. Morenz, Dundalk, Md.; Ed. Bruner, Monterey Park, Calif.; B.C. Hilliard, Jr., Denver, Colo.; Morris H. Shapiro, Waterbury, Conn.; A. Floyd Scott, Longview, Wash.; Will F. Crow, M. D., Moundsville, W. Va.; E. F. Fortmiller, Albany, Oregon; Dennis F. Lane, Portland, Oregon; Hugo A. Young, Colon, Neb.; Lewis J. Jaffee, Philadelphia, Pa.; Martin W. Harmel, Waco, Texas; John W. Griffith, Trussville, Ala.; Walter S. Cook, Chicago, Ill.; Mrs. Marguerite G. Seigbert, Indianapolis, Ind.; Zack Wilhoit, Louisville, Ky.; William Duffy, Louisville, Ky.; John Maguire, Louisville, Ky.; Len J. Hays, Louisville, Ky.; Loren Shultz, Knoxville, Tenn.; Theodore F. Allison, Indianapolis, Ind.

Global Glimpses - - Continued

ports on the progress they are making. She writes, "We have been receiving letters off and on from big people. Our biggest one was from President Roosevelt through the Department of the Interior. We had been wondering no end in what way we could possibly get a letter to him, well we got one through in the March of Dimes. We outlined briefly conditions here and our desire of a transfer to Carville. We were half expecting not to receive an answer but we did and a very nice letter it was. The matter of the possibility of transferring patients from St. Croix to Carville was being taken up with the Public Health Service the letter said. Imagine our writing to the President of the United States. That was a milestone in our organization's history."

Life must go on in a world so filled with death -- and love must go on in a world so full of hate.

Katherine Bregy

ALL AROUND THE TOWN

House 18-2 was the scene of two birthday parties in March. Louise Ann was honored on March 24. The tea room was decorated in a patriotic motif and the homemade cakes were masterpieces. About 16 guests enjoyed the evening and we are told many lovely gifts were received by the honoree.

On March 29 Miriam's father, known to most of us as "Pop", was taken quite by surprise. The long living room table was covered with a white cloth and red white and blue crepe paper. This was topped with three homemade cakes and a big bowl of punch. We are told "Pop" was overjoyed by this tribute from his young friends and daughter.

Belated congratulations to both of you!

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It seems to be a fad in Carville these days to have your bicycle repainted. The finished jobs are keen. Tommy, according to his particular taste, had his painted as red as a fire wagon but Oscar, more conservative, had his refinished in a dark brown with white stripping. "Pop-eye" as we call him, has his in maroon and ivory while Benny's is royal blue with ivory trim. The painter is our Jack-of-all-trades, Hank.

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When we call Eula a "million dollar baby" we mean it literally. For we learned from an article in Scientific American that Penicillin costs approximately $125 a shot and at that rate Eula goes up in value with every Penicillin shot she gets.

When we found Benny reading a Sunday New York tabloid dated that very day we were convinced that this is the age of speed and that Carville is really up to the minute. Curiosity prompted us to find out how it all came about and here's how it works: The paper was brought by plane from New York to New Orleans on Saturday evening and visitors brought it here.

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No more kidding Pete Bellocampo, Post Adjutant of the American Legion, and dashing young Lochinvar, about his cake baking for Pete really can bake a delicious cake. We know we had a sample.

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Sitting at that massive desk in Recreational Aid Thames' office one gets the feeling of attending a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Chase National Bank or something. Ain't imagination grand!

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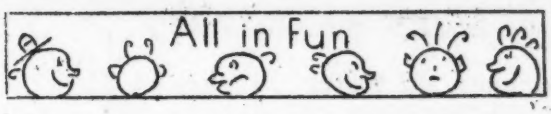
KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON

The new patient stumbled out of Dr. Hopkins' clinic looking utterly bewildered. An old-timer sidled up to him and asked, "What is the matter, feller?" "I don't know," moaned the newcomer, "I just can't understand these doctors." "Why? What happened?" queried the O.T. "Well," said the N.P., "When I went in to see Dr. Hopkins he said, 'Would you mind taking off your shirt?' So I did. "O, I wouldn't get too upset about that," said the O.T., "he does that to everyone." "Yeah," wailed the newcomer, "but all he did was examine my eyebrows!"

"When you play, play hard; when you work, don't play at all."
--Theodore Roosevelt



Build up your resistance, that's
what you must do,
And soon you'll be feeling as
good as new;
Eat Chef Clayton's concoctions
of hash and stew,
Very rich in Vitamins PU.

HAPPY PIGS!

Patient to Lab. Technician: You say the Hansen germ and the TB germ are so much alike, then how in the world do you tell them apart?
Lab. Technician: Well, we inject the germs into a guinea pig. If it dies in a couple of days its TB but if it's Hansen's the pig stays as happy as you are.

Louise Ann: Miriam, you are always singing. Did you ever study singing?
Miriam: Oh yes, I did.
Louise Ann: Where did you study it?
Miriam: I studied it by correspondence.
Louise Ann: Oh,well,lots of your mail must have been lost.

RECIPE FOR A $100.00 CHOCOLATE CAKE(CONTRIBUTED BY SISTER ROSALIE)

This is the story.Some well-to-do woman in Indianapolis went to Chicago and was present at a banquet at some elite hotel. Chocolate cake was served. It was delicious-------so much so that the woman after returning to Indianapolis could think of nothing and talk of nothing save that DELICIOUS chocolate cake. After some days of wishful yearning she set herself down and penned the Chef a letter asking for the recipe and saying that she would "give anything in the world for it." The recipe was promptly remitted to her and a few days following a bill for $100.00. The woman was non-plussed and then anger beset her and she took the affair to her lawyer but he said there was nothing for her to do but pay it. She paid it. The desire for revenge made her restless so she became determined to spread abroad to the four winds of the earth the famous recipe that had cost her the sum of $100.00! Someone here made two cakes for a special occasion and BELIEVE YOU ME----it was the most delicious cake I have ever tasted. Then I considered------why cannot the patients in Carville enjoy the rarity of a $100.00 CHOCOLATE CAKE?So I asked for the recipe and here it is. Just try it on your own little stoves. Save your sugar, hoard your butter and beg, borrow or steal your chocolate and you,too, will testify to the eliteness of a delicious CHOCOLATE CAKE. This is not Kate Smith talking-----but merely Sister Rosalie on W-I-R-E from Indianapolis!

$100.00 CHOCOLATE CAKE

½ cup butter, 2 cups sugar, 4 ounces bitter chocolate, 2 eggs, 1½ cups milk, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 2 teaspoons vanilla,1 cup chopped nuts, 2 cups flour.

Cream butter and sugar. Melt chocolate. Beat eggs and add them to sugar. Then add melted chocolate, mix dry ingredients and alternately add them with the liquid. Add vanilla, chopped nuts. Bake in a loaf pan at 350 degrees for about 45 minutes.

FROSTING

¼ pound butter, 2 squares chocolate,2/3 pound confectionary sugar, 1 egg, 1 tablespoon vanilla, 1 tablespoon lemon juice, 1 cup chopped nuts.

Melt butter and chocolate, add beaten egg, salt. Add sugar, vanilla, and lemon juice, add nuts.

CATHOLIC CHAPEL

Father Abbot Paul, Chaplain
6 A.M. Communion Mass with short homily, Sunday
8:30 A.M. Low Mass with Sermon, followed by Benediction, Sunday
6:00 A.M. Mass, weekdays
2:30 P.M. Novena to Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal, Tuesday

A Mission was held at the Catholic Chapel during Holy Week by Father Fox, S.J., of New Orleans.

PROTESTANT CHURCH NOTES

UNION PROTESTANT CHURCH,
Rev. Clifton E. Rash, Chaplain.

Regular Services every Sunday morning at 9:45. Wednesday at 8:30. This is mid-week prayer meeting and Bible Study. The Bible studies are the International Sunday School lessons for each following Sunday.

Regular service of Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month at 9:45.

There was a special Communion Service on Maundy Thursday, April 6, at 10 P.M., and a special Easter service at the regular hour Easter morning, April 9.

A new afternoon Bible Study Class has been started by the Pastor, meeting from 1 to 2 o'clock Thursdays.

Rev. Wayne C. Rash, son of Rev. and Mrs. Clifton E. Rash, who has been pastor of Calvary Christian Church in Baton Rouge, has entered the Training School for Army chaplains at Harvard University. His wife, Venita, is making her home with the Rashs here and adds much to our services by her singing and playing of the piano accordian.

RECIPE FOR GREATNESS

To bear up under loss---to fight the bitterness of defeat and the weakness of grief--to be the victor over anger----to smile when tears are close---to resist disease and evil men and base instincts--to hate hate and to love love--to go on when it would seem good to die----to seek ever after the glory and the dream---to look up with unquenchable faith in something ever more about to be--that is what ANY MAN CAN DO, and so be great!

Zane Grey

KEEP PLUGGING ALONG

It's the steady constant driving
To the goal for which you're striving,
Not the speed with which you travel,
That will make your victory sure.
It's the everlasting gaining,
Without whimper or complaining
At the burdens you are bearing,
Or the woes you must endure.
It's the holding to a purpose
And never giving in;
It's the cutting down the distance
By the little that you win;
It's the IRON WILL to do it;
And the steady STICKING TO IT;
So whate'er your task, go to it!
Keep your grit and PLUG ALONG.

Anon.

This poem was sent to the members of THE STAR staff by a good friend.

Don't look for flaws as you go through life
And even when you find them-
It is sometimes kind to be somewhat blind
And look for the virtues behind them.

(Sister Rosalie wrote this in a letter but did not say who wrote it)

BOMB THE BUMS--BUY BONDS!

PERSONNEL PERSONALS

by Mary E. Browne

The Ladies' Friday Afternoon Bridge Club met three times during March. The Hostesses were Mrs. Claude Eccles, Mrs. Guy Faget and Mrs. David Gleason.

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Sharp visited Sergeant and Mrs. Ralph Sharp in Florence, South Carolina early in the month. After their return home they had the unexpected pleasure of a visit here on the station from Sgt. and Mrs. Sharp. They had been called home by the illness of Mrs. Sharp's mother, Mrs. Nicolas Eliser, who is recovering nicely.

Mrs. J.F. Dinan was hostess of the Officers' Supper Club on the first Tuesday of March. After a delicious supper a pleasant evening of Bridge was enjoyed.

Ensign Max Faget visited his parents over the weekend of March 18 while enroute from the University of Pennsylvania to a new post of duty in Florida.

The Personnel Bridge Dessert Club met on Thursday, March 16, with co-hostesses Mrs. J.F. Dinan And Mrs. Alex Haase. Bridge was enjoyed and the winners were: Mrs. Faget, Mrs. S.H. Butler, Dr. Poggo and tied for 4th place, Mrs. B.M. Prejean and Miss Browne. Mrs. Prejean cut the high card.

Mrs. Jean A. Sanderson, affectionately known as "Tattens", stopped for a short visit on March 29 with Mrs. G. H. Faget.

Mrs. Sanderson had been on an extended visit in Seattle, Washington and on the west coast with sisters, relatives and friends and was returning to her home in Atlanta, Georgia.

Very informally the ladies on the station were invited in by Mrs. Faget at 3:00 in the afternoon, for tea and a visit with "Tattens". It was a happy occasion and some 25 ladies called.

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Guests at the Ralph Sharp quarters include Mrs. Fritz Trautman and daughter, Mary Kathie, of Galveston, Texas.

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Mrs. George Malarcher and Miss Mary Browne were in the "Crescent City" recently.

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Among the personnel called to active service during march are: Norman Hernandez (Navy); Edward Hernandez, George Tircuit and George Peltier (Army).

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Mrs. Bennie Engler visited her husband, Pfc Bernard Engler in Victoria, Texas recently.

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Mrs. J.E. Roberts, and son, Earl Jr., left on March 5, to make their home in New York City in order to be near 2nd Class Mail Clerk J.E. Roberts (U.S. Navy) on duty in that vicinity.

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Mr. Edward D. Stanley had an unexpected pleasure on March 30 in New Orleans, Louisiana, where he met and talked with Storekeeper 2nd Cl. Grandaum (U.S. Navy) who was on leave and had been on duty in the South Pacific area on the same ship with Coxswain Edward (Sonny) Stanley.

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Mrs. J. Aubrey LaPlace spent Easter in El Paso with her husband, Corporal Aubrey LaPlace, who is on duty at a nearby post.

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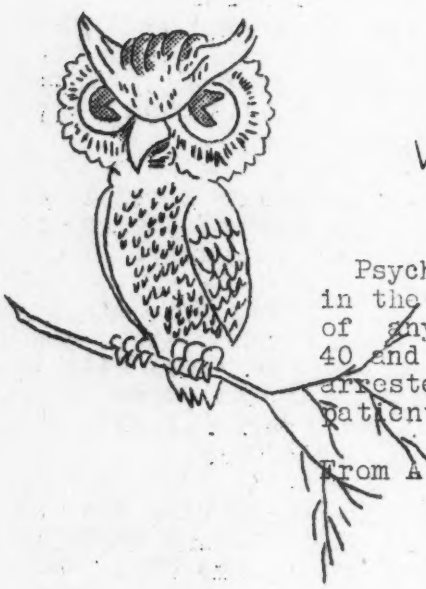
Friends welcome back Mrs. C.A. Carter (Evelyn LaPlace) who was employed in the Dietitian's office some years ago. She is visiting her parents at Sunshine, Louisiana, from her home in Ann Arbor, Mich., and has her son Charles Jr. with her.



WORDS OF THE WISE

Emory Ross said it:

Psychology plays a more important part in the treatment of leprosy than in that of any other physical ailment. Between 40 and 50 percent of the progress in all arrested cases is due to restoring the patient's sense of human worth.

From A NEW APPROACH TO AN OLD PLAGUE:
Survey-Graphic